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STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1952

S. LUDKIN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

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*Health Department,
Council Offices,
Tantobie,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.*

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of your area for the year 1952—the fifth in the series for which I have been responsible.

There was an increase in the Birthrate but a slight deterioration in the other rates, not sufficient however, to cause anxiety.

The existing services in the area were maintained and a B.C.G. Scheme for the vaccination against Tuberculosis of selected susceptible contacts was introduced.

In order to boost the falling Diphtheria Immunisation Rate amongst the school children, a school scheme was introduced whereby all eligible children were offered facilities at school during school hours. Parents and teachers were most co-operative and the whole project was most satisfactory.

A Measles epidemic swept throughout the area and unfortunately caused the death of one infant.

The sanitary circumstances of the District were satisfactory and the first part of a project to rid us of the remaining privies was commenced.

There has been, during the year, an increasing liaison both with the General Practitioners and the Hospital Authorities and I wish to record my appreciation for their ready co-operation.

Finally, I wish to thank the Members of the Council for their encouragement and support and the Staff for their co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY LUDKIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

ENVIRONMENTAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND GENERAL STATISTICS

IN THE URBAN DISTRICT

Area (Acres)	12,658
Population (Estimated)	48,080
(i) Estimated number of children :—	
Under 5 years	4,214
5–14 years	7,252
(ii) Approximate number of Aged People	4,660
Marriages in the Area during 1952	628
Number of inhabited houses	13,989
(i) Number of Aged Miners' Homes	180
(ii) Number of Council Aged Persons' Homes... ..	212
(iii) Number of Council Houses	3,626
(iv) Number of Houses and Shops combined	194
(v) Number of Lock-up Shops	323
(vi) Number of Occupied Houses under Demolition Orders	7
(vii) Estimated number of Sub-standard Houses	1,247
Rateable Value (1952-53)	
(i) Estimated	£198,471
(ii) Net Product of Penny Rate (1952-53) (Estimated)	£720

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

	Males.	Females.	Totals
(i) Coal Mining	10,000	—	10,000
(ii) Building and Civil Engineering	700	5	705
(iii) Retail Distribution of Food	700	580	1,280
(iv) Local and National Government	350	80	430
(v) Catering, Hotels, Canteens, etc.	150	480	630
(vi) Road Transport	600	70	670
(vii) Miscellaneous	1,850	1,435	3,285
Totals	14,350	2,650	17,000

UNEMPLOYED AND DISABLED

	Males.	Females.	Totals.	%
(i) Employable Persons out of work at the end of 1952	—	—	450	2.6
(ii) Persons registered as Disabled	911	52	963	
(iii) Registered Disabled who were on the Tuberculosis Register at the 31.12.52	34	4	38	3.9
(iv) Disabled persons retrained	—	—	17	
(v) No. of persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1952	—	—	14	
(vi) No. of T.B. persons who have had special rehabilitation during 1952	—	—	1	
(vii) Tuberculosis persons retrained during 1952	—	—	2	
(viii) No. of Registered Blind Persons	—	—	120	
(ix) No. of Partially Sighted Persons	—	—	23	
(x) No. of Persons drawing Blind Persons' Pension	—	—	23	
(xi) No. of Blind Persons in receipt of National Assistance	—	—	61	

COMPARATIVE RATES

	England and Wales.	Durham County	160 Smaller Towns.	Stanley
No. of live births per 1,000 population ...	15.3	17.3	15.5	17.03
No. of still births per 1,000 population ...	0.35	0.45	0.36	0.60
No. of maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	0.72	1.06	—	Nil.
No. of infant deaths per 1,000 live births ...	27.6*	33.0	25.8	40.29
No. of deaths per 1,000 population	11.3	10.9	11.2	11.77
No. of Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 popula- tion	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.23
No. of Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population	—	0.25	—	0.21
No. of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis deaths per 1,000 population	—	0.03	—	0.02

The standardised birth and death rates for the area, i.e., rates calculated in such a way that allowances are made for the age and sex composition of the population were 18.05 and 13.06 respectively.

* Related Live Births.

DETAILED VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
(a) Live Births :			
Legitimate	395	398	793
Illegitimate	15	11	26
Totals	410	409	819
(b) Still Births :			
Legitimate	15	13	28
Illegitimate	—	1	1
Totals	15	14	29

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
No. of Still Births per 1,000 popu- lation	0.72	0.57	0.35	0.41	0.42	0.60
No. of Live and Still Births per 1,000 population... ..	23.56	19.50	18.35	16.27	16.79	17.63
No. of Still Births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	30.62	29.35	19.00	25.35	24.75	34.20

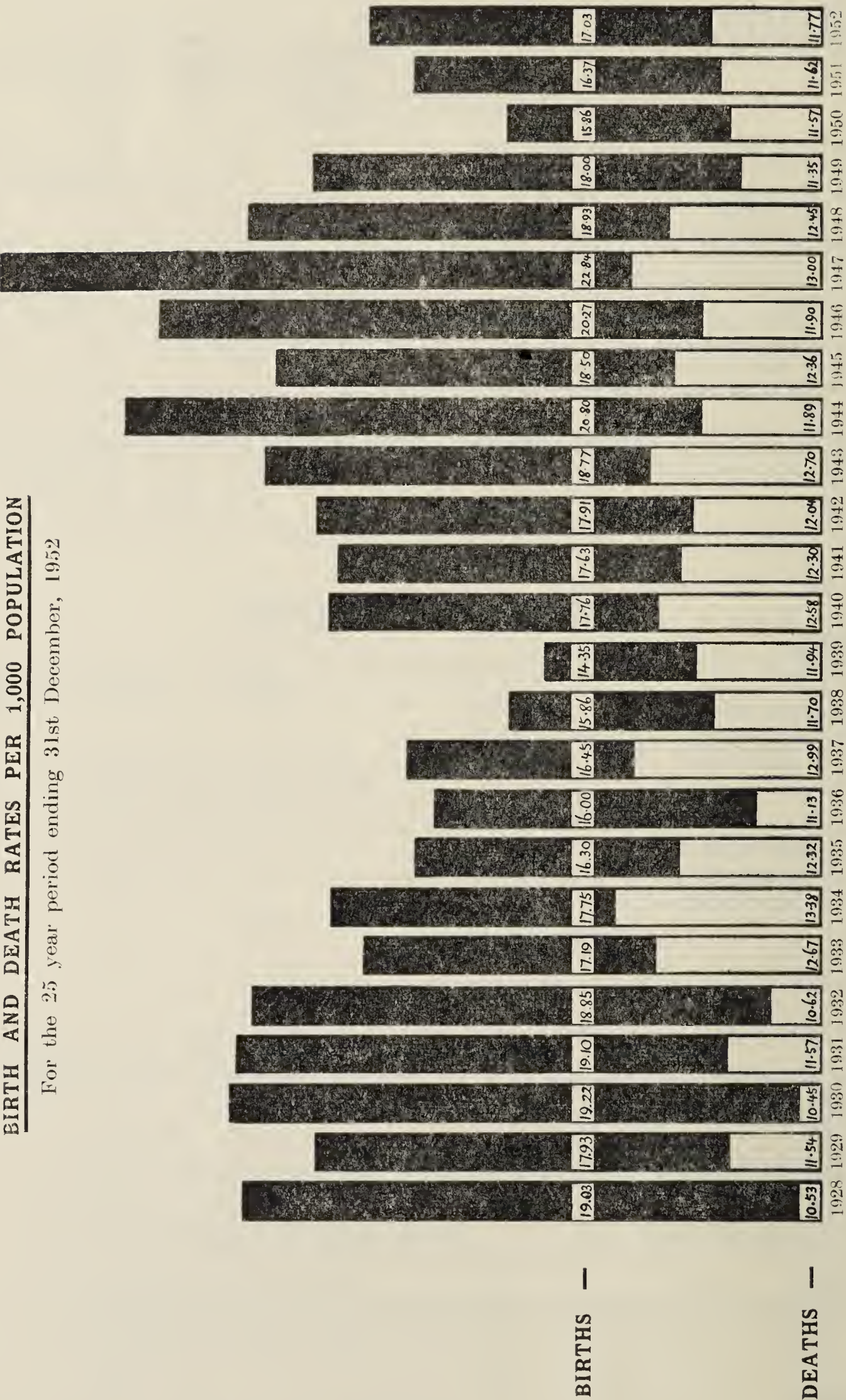
During the year there were 29 still births as compared with 20 last year.

DEATHS

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths during year	313	253	566
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	—	—	—

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

For the 25 year period ending 31st December, 1952



(a) Infant Deaths.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the year was 40.29 (33 deaths) as compared with 39.34 (31 deaths) in the previous year. The figures for the last twelve years, together with 1911, 1921 and 1931 being :—



It is to be noted that 24 (72.7%) deaths occurred in the first month of life, six being due to congenital malformations.

It is still my firm conviction that education in mothercraft could be beneficially introduced in the form of a short series of lectures to girls of 15 years just before they leave school. Whilst stimulating their interests in these principles they could also be told, and by visits see for themselves, the free facilities offered in the Area to expectant and nursing mothers.

For detailed vital statistics and trends see Appendix A.

(b) Deaths (General)						Males.	Females.	Totals.
ALL CAUSES						313	253	566
1. Cardio vascular :—								
(a)	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	44	52	96
(b)	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	50	26	76
(c)	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	5	7	12
(d)	Other heart diseases	...	...	...	...	42	36	78
(e)	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	16	12	28
Totals						157	133	290
2. Chest Diseases :—								
(a)	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	8	17	25
(b)	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	11	4	15
(c)	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Totals						20	21	41
3. Cancer :—								
(a)	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	11	7	18
(b)	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
(c)	Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	8	8
(d)	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	5	5
(e)	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	40	20	60
Totals						54	43	97
4.	Tuberculosis—all forms	...	...	...	...	5	6	11
5.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
7.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
8.	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
9.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
10.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
11.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
12.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	2	4	6
13.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
14.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
15.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	35	31	66
16.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
17.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	9	4	13
18.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
19.	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
20.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
21.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	1	1

The main causes of death were diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System, Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Cancer in that order.

Cancer and disease of the Cardio-vascular System still remain a challenge to medical science and preventive medicine. Heart disease, notably Coronary Thrombosis—of which there were 76 deaths, 66% being males—is assuming greater importance year by year.

Accidents in the home were responsible for 4 deaths during the year, all being over 60 years.

The death occurred at her home at Hillcrest, Burnopfield, of Mrs. Jane Lackland, aged 103 years.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Staff of Public Health Department.

Medical Officer of Health and Area Medical Officer :

S. LUDKIN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

K. ELLIOTT, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I., Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

Chief Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

J. W. RICHARDS, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I., Certified Meat and Foods Inspector.

District Inspectors :

J. B. MCGREGOR, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.

J. E. HARRIS, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.

Clerical Staff :

T. WATSON; G. W. MOORE; W. BELL; J. BAINBRIDGE (Appointed 1/9/52).

Rodent Operator :

R. NEILL.

2. Laboratory Facilities.

These continue to be provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle, under the direction of Dr. R. Norton.

All specimens for animal inoculation are sent to the laboratory attached to the General Hospital, Newcastle.

While there has been a reduction in the number of specimens submitted for examination during 1952 as compared with the year 1951, the services of the Public Health Laboratory over the last three years are still being used to a much greater extent by the General Practitioners than previously. The number of specimens sent for examination during the past five years being :—

Year.	Specimens Submitted.	Positive.
1948	568	77
1949	887	159
1950	2,475	493
1951	1,335	292
1952	1,039	139

The reduction in numbers during this year was mainly due to the fall in the incidence and number of notifications of Dysentery.

The following table gives particulars of specimens sent in by the Health Department and the Medical Practitioners in the Area for examination during the year.

Bacteriological Examinations.

	Number of Specimens submitted	Positive
Blood : Culture	1	—
Faeces :		
(a) Enteric Fever	288	34
(b) Other Organisms		
Swabs : (Throat, Nasal and Ear).		
(a) Diphtheria	134	1
(b) Haemolytic Streptococci	5	3
(c) Other Organisms	62	13
Sputum for Tuberculosis :		
(a) Chest Clinics	520	82
(b) Other Medical Services	22	5
Miscellaneous	7	1
Totals	1,039	139

2 Water (not mains supply) and 179 Ice Cream Samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

157 Ice Cream Samples were found to be completely satisfactory.

3. Nursing in the Home.

The four Nursing Associations in the District, now affiliated to the County Nursing Association, undertake to carry out this service on an agency agreement with the County Health Committee. It is however the intention of the County Council to take over the entire service towards the end of 1953.

While the District Committees are still in existence most have forwarded their store of nursing requisites to the central store at Durham.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by all District Nursing Associations in the Area :—

	Cases	Visits
Midwifery	229	4,144
Maternity	130	852
General, including Medical and Surgical	1,753	27,202
Ante-natal	—	2,256
Post-natal	—	244
Casual	—	1,035
Clinics	—	27
Totals	2,112	35,760

The staff of the District Nursing Associations is as follows :—

Stanley	...	...	2	General Nurses and 4 Nurse Midwives.
Annfield Plain	...	...	1	General Nurse.
Burnopfield	...	...	2	Nurse Midwives who carry out General Nursing and Midwifery.
Craghead	...	...	1	do.
Dipton	...	...	1	General Nurse.
Tanfield	...	...	1	do.

In addition to the above the following County Midwives live and operate in this District :

Annfield Plain	...	...	2	Midwives.
Tanfield	...	...	1	Midwife.
Dipton	...	...	1	Midwife.
Stanley	...	...	1	Midwife. (Independent).

The following is a summary of work carried out by the above County Midwives :

							Cases	Visits
Midwifery	...	...	...	...	...	...	115	1,955
Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	1,615
Totals							210	3,570

All midwifery and maternity cases are attended for fourteen days.

4. County Clinics.

(a) Birth Control.

Clinics for the above are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Holmside House, Stanley, on alternate Tuesday afternoons.

(b) Ante-natal.

Clinics are held as follows :

CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, CATCHGATE—Friday afternoons.

U.M. SCHOOLROOM, BURNOPFIELD—Alternate Thursday mornings.

HEDLEY MEMORIAL HALL, CRAGHEAD—Alternate Wednesday mornings.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE, DIPTON—Alternate Thursday afternoons.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, HOLMSIDE HOUSE, STANLEY—Wednesday mornings.

WESLEYAN SCHOOLROOM, TANFIELD LEA—Alternate Tuesday afternoons.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HUT, SOUTH MOOR—Alternate Wednesday afternoons.

(c) Post-natal.

Clinics for the above are held in the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Holmside House, Stanley on alternate Tuesday afternoons.

(d) Child Welfare.

Clinics are held as follows :

CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, CATCHGATE—Tuesday afternoons.

U.M. SCHOOLROOM, BURNOPFIELD—Alternate Thursday mornings, Thursday afternoons weekly.

HEDLEY MEMORIAL HALL, CRAGHEAD—Alternate Wednesday afternoons.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE, DIPTON—Alternate Thursday mornings.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HUT, SOUTH MOOR—Alternate Monday afternoons.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, HOLMSIDE HOUSE, STANLEY—Tuesday mornings.

WESLEYAN SCHOOLROOM, TANFIELD LEA—Alternate Tuesday mornings.

(e) **Chest.**

Clinics for the above specialty are held in the Chest Clinic, Holmside House, Barnhill, Stanley; females and children Thursday mornings and afternoons and males Friday mornings, by appointment.

(f) **Artificial Sunlight.**

Clinics are held as follows :

CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, CATCHGATE—Tuesday mornings and alternate Friday mornings.
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINIC, HOLMSIDE HOUSE, STANLEY—Friday afternoons and alternate Tuesday afternoons.

(g) **Immunisation.**

Immunisation has been carried out by :

- (i) Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics throughout the Area,
- (ii) General Practitioners by personal arrangement with parents and
- (iii) A School Immunisation Scheme.

(h) **Venereal Diseases.**

Clinics for the above are held as follows :

Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Males and Females :

Monday to Friday : 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon ; 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday : 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday (Emergency only) : 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

Durham County Hospital, Durham.

Females : Monday, 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
Thursday, 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
Males : Monday, 4.30 p.m. to 5.15 p.m.
Thursday, 4.30 p.m. to 5.15 p.m.

5. **Domestic Help Service.**

This service, provided by the County Council, has been used even more extensively during the year than previously. The object of the service is to provide domestic help for households "where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged or a child not over compulsory school age."

On 31st December, 1952, 261 cases were being served by a home help. There were 190 new cases during the year of which 147 were aged people, 3 maternity cases and the remainder being cases of illness and accident, making a total of 453 households provided with the services of a home help during the year.

The principal functions of this service is to cover the temporary emergency and as the demand for this service continues to increase it is necessary for cases of illness to be given priority over the aged and infirm and there is now a waiting list which also continues to grow.

6. **County Ambulance Service.**

The Urban District comes within the area served by the Consett Ambulance Control (with its staff of four clerk-telephonists maintaining a 24-hour service) but is served in the main by the County Depot situated in East Street, East Stanley. The establishment of personnel and vehicles at this latter depot is as follows :

Driver-attendants	16
Ambulances	5

The following table gives details of work undertaken by the Stanley Depot during the year 1952 :

Journeys Undertaken	Cases carried			Miles Covered
	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
4,877	2,127	14,857	16,984	137,847

It should be noted however, that the conveyance of cases resident in the Urban District is not completely restricted to the Stanley Depot but is undertaken by the unit which is most convenient at any given time. All requests for ambulances are made to the Consett Ambulance Control (Telephone No. Consett 411).

7. Hospital Services.

(Under the control of the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee) :

Maiden Law Hospital.

During the year under review infectious disease patients continued to be hospitalised in this hospital. While 24 beds are also used by the Ear, Nose and Throat Unit, an increasing number of the remaining beds are being used for cases of Tuberculosis.

South Moor Hospital.

Of the 38 available beds 24 are used for Thoracic Cases and 14 for Orthopædic and General Surgical Cases.

Out-patient sessions have been arranged for the following specialties :— Surgery, Gynæcology, Orthopædics, Pædiatrics, Ophthalmology, and Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases.

Lee Hill Hospital.

This hospital, with a complement of 307 beds (245 under Hospital Management Committee and 62 under Local Health Authority for Part III cases needing care and attention) and a Medical Out-patients' Department, deals with Chronic Sick and includes a section for Orthopædic Tuberculosis cases.

Bed allocation is as follows :

Orthopædic ...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Mental ...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Chronic Sick ...	...	...	...	...	...	176
Part III Accommodation ...	...	...	...	...	...	62

Shotley Bridge Hospital.

An increasing number of cases in the area are now draining to the Shotley Bridge Group of hospitals for out-patient and in-patient treatment instead of to Newcastle as in the past. The 557 beds are allocated to the following specialties.

General Medicine ...	...	...	...	...	98
Surgery ...	...	...	...	...	129
Orthopædics ...	...	...	...	...	30
Gynæcology ...	...	...	...	...	33
Thoracic Surgery ...	...	...	...	...	150
Plastic Surgery ...	...	...	...	...	41
Pædiatrics ...	...	...	...	...	26
Radio-therapy ...	...	...	...	...	50

Richard Murray Hospital.

There are 30 Obstetric beds at this hospital.

8. Old People and their Homes.

This is becoming an increasing problem, for despite every assistance from the Home Help Service, the various Voluntary Welfare Committees for the Aged, the Home Nursing Service supplemented by short-stays at the Lee Hill Hospital, there is still a great need for hostel accommodation for those needing care and attention. There have been difficulties in the past with the building or acquisition of premises, but we can only hope that the promised L.H.A. Hostel for the Stanley Area will materialise in the near future.

9. Refuse Removal and Disposal.

House refuse is collected from 5,739 ashpits weekly and 8,096 ashbins twice weekly together with trade refuse twice weekly from 121 shops, etc., necessitating a total of 22,173 visits each week.

The estimated amount of refuse is 42,953 tons per annum.

The refuse is abnormally heavy and peculiar to a colliery district where the coal is supplied free to the miners and contains a high percentage of stone. These stones are still being separated from the coal and deposited either on the highway or the back-streets which has entailed additional cost of collection.

The total annual cost of collection and disposal for the year ending 31st March, 1953, which includes the capital expenditure of £1,142 for a new refuse vehicle, was £27,714. This gives a rate of 12/11d. per ton and an equivalent rate in the pound of 3/2½d. The average weight of refuse per 1,000 population per day is 48.8 cwts. and the nett cost per 1,000 population per year is £576.

10. Trade Refuse and Salvage.

During the early part of the year trade refuse was collected from shops in the Area together with the house-to-house collection of waste paper.

In June, owing to the amount of paper recovered not being sufficient to cover the cost of collection, largely due to the price of mixed paper falling from £16 to £7 10s. 0d. per ton, the Council decided to cease house-to-house collection of waste paper. Baling of waste paper recovered from trade refuse was continued and the following table gives the amounts of waste paper sold to the Thames Board Mills.

	T.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper	81	15	3	12	903	12	3
Books and Magazines	4	8	—	12	80	17	9
Fibreboard Containers	—	16	1	12	9	12	11
Newspapers	3	14	—	20	77	7	2
	—	—	—	—			
Totals	90	14	2	—	£1,071	10	1
	==	==	==	==	=====		

11. Prevention of Damage by Pests.

During the year inspections were made of various lands and premises in the Area and operations for the destruction of rats and mice were carried out. For details of inspections see Appendix D.

Towards the end of the year the existing arrangements for carrying out the duties of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, were reviewed and the Council agreed to the following revised arrangements.

- (1) That the treating of sewers for infestation control, previously carried out by the Surveyor's Department should be the responsibility of the Health Department.
- (2) That private dwelling houses should have a free service.
- (3) That work carried out in connection with industrial, business and commercial premises be on a rechargeable basis.

12. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year three Council and five private houses were found to be infested with bed bugs and were disinfested.

The method of disinfestation carried out is by spraying with insecticides, removing or destroying infested woodwork where necessary, and the washing down of articles with soap and water.

13. Pet Animals Act, 1951.

During the year one licence for the keeping of pet animals was issued and routine inspections were carried out.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water.

(a) The public water supply furnished by the Durham County Water Board—a pure upland surface water obtained from a moorland catchment area—has been satisfactory in quality in all parts of the area. With reservoirs situated at Smiddy Shaw, Waskerley Park, Hisehope and a filtering and chlorinating station at Honey Hill, the water is carried considerable distances in its distribution. Periodic shortages in certain areas have been due to bursts following ground subsidence, and to inadequate pipe-lines to rapidly developing estates and building sites, all aggravated by the relatively long drought during the summer months.

Both chemical and bacteriological tests have been satisfactory and during the whole of the year there was a steady residual of approximately 0.1 p.p.m. of Chlorine, thus ensuring an absolutely safe supply.

(b) During the year work proceeded on the reconstruction and roofing of the service reservoirs at the Loud, one reservoir being completed and the other will be completed early next year.

In connection with new housing schemes in the area, the Water Board laid 1,309 yards of 3" diameter pipe, 349 yards of 4" and 19 yards of 6" diameter pipe.

Shortage of water was reported from Flint Hill (due to a lack of main capacity and it is hoped to commence laying a new 12" diameter main from Greencroft to Flint Hill in the coming year), Dipton (due to bursts through frosts) and Shield Row (additional houses have been built and permission has not yet been granted for the proposed new 6" diameter main to feed this area).

An emergency pipe was laid from Muggleswick Tunnel to the Hisehope main to by-pass Smiddy Shaw reservoir when it was very low during the summer months. This helped to maintain a supply to the district.

(c) Two samples of water taken from springs were sent for bacteriological examination and were found to be unsatisfactory.

2. Drainage and Sewage.

The new purification works at the Causey were opened on the 10th May, 1952 and the old works at West Kyo, Clough Dene, Tantobie, Tanfield Lea, West Shield Row, Tanfield Village and East Tanfield have consequently now been abandoned.

Sewage from the whole district now drains to modern works at Causey and Hustledown.

The main sewer has been extended from Bowesville, Hobson to Bowes Terrace and the branch sewer in Bowes Terrace reversed to provide for privy conversions in this street.

3. Sanitary Conveniences.

During the year a scheme for the conversion of 1,000 privies in the Stanley, Annfield Plain and Tanfield areas was forwarded to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government who had no objection, in principle, to the scheme but considered such a scheme should be carried out in instalments over a period of three to four years.

The Council decided to undertake the scheme in three instalments, the first to comprise 332 privies in the Stanley area. This was commenced in November and fifty five privies were converted by the end of the year.

In addition, 137 privies were converted into water-closets by private contract leaving 1,833 privies in the area.

The numbers of privies converted into water-closets since 1931 are as follows :

1931	...	...	...	151	
1932	...	...	...	155	
1933	...	...	...	1,664	(including scheme for 1,460)
1934	...	...	...	250	
1935	...	...	...	142	
1936	...	...	...	230	
1937	...	...	...	103	
1938	...	...	...	47	
1939	...	...	...	471	(including part scheme for 1,295)
1940	...	...	...	3	
1941	...	...	...	1	
1942	...	...	...	2	
1943	...	...	...	6	
1944	...	...	...	12	
1945	...	...	...	6	
1946	...	...	...	7	
1947	...	...	...	4	
1948	...	...	...	51	
1949	...	...	...	58	
1950	...	...	...	57	
1951	...	...	...	80	
1952	...	...	...	192	(55 being part of conversion scheme)
Total ...				3,692	

The following are the types of conveniences in the area :

Water-closets	...	...	12,669
Privies	...	...	1,833
Dry Ashpits	...	...	3,906
Ashbins	...	...	8,096

4. Housing.

(a) General.

The number of applications for Council houses received during January and February, 1952, was 2,014, which were classified as follows :

Families Without Homes	...	...	935
Overcrowding (Family Units)	...	...	374
Insanitary Dwellings	...	...	29
Medical	...	...	28
Aged Persons	...	...	280
Unclassified	...	...	368
Total ...			
			2,014

Overcrowding.—The number of applications on the 1952 Housing List is 374 which are confined specifically to the one-family unit and the selection of tenants is based on the points system of two persons to one room and allowing for separation of children according to age and sex.

The following table shews the number of persons and families together with the number of bedrooms.

No. of Persons in House	Total No. of Persons	No. of Families	No. of Bedrooms			
			0	1	2	3
2	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	264	88	—	88	—	—
4	416	104	—	104	—	—
5	495	99	—	49	50	—
6	312	52	—	12	40	—
7	126	18	—	4	12	2
8	72	9	—	—	6	3
9	9	1	—	—	1	—
10	10	1	—	—	1	—
11	11	1	—	—	—	1
12	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	13	1	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	1,728	374	—	257	110	7

It will be noted that approximately 69% of the applications are from families living in one-bedroom houses.

20% of all Council houses let during the year were occupied by 56 overcrowded families (336 persons).

The Council's very sound practice of allocating 10% of new houses and casual lettings to medical cases was continued and in view of our concern to reduce the incidence of Tuberculosis in the Area, all of this allocation was granted to overcrowded families or families living in insanitary circumstances, in which one or more persons were suffering from Tuberculosis. Due regard was given to the family income and rent payable for the Council house to ensure that no financial hardship nor deterioration in nutritional state would ensue following rehousing.

A total of 148 applicants for Council houses requested medical priority during the year, but only 28 were considered to justify special consideration. Of these, 16 families (63 persons) were rehoused.

The following Council houses were completed during the year :

Dining Recess with 3 Bedrooms (Brick)	...	...	...	...	...	10
Parlour type with 3 Bedrooms (Brick)	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dining-kitchen with 3 Bedrooms (Brick)	...	...	...	...	...	56
Dining-kitchen with 3 Bedrooms (Orlit)	...	...	...	...	...	102
Aged Pensioners' Cottages with 2 Bedrooms (Brick)	...	...	...	...	...	6
Flats above Shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
			Total	...	...	182

New Council houses let :

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	171
Flats (shops)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Aged Pensioners' Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	6
			Total	...	...	179

Casual lettings :

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	57
Aged Pensioners' Cottages	...	...	...	...	...	26
Special (Oakwood House)	...	...	...	...	...	1
			Total	...	...	84

During the year conversion of the accommodation at the Miners' Hostel, New Kyo, was continued and the following bungalows were completed :

Completed and Occupied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

In addition, the following private houses were completed and occupied :

- 2 Police houses at South Moor.
- 1 Steward's house at South Moor Social Club.
- 1 Flat over South Moor Golf Club House.
- 1 Bungalow near South Moor Hospital.

Another three of the Council's houses were allocated to the Durham County Council for the use of Midwives and Nurses in the Area, now making the total 10.

The total number of persons rehoused in Council houses during the year was 1,204 and 47 persons were rehoused in Aged Persons' Bungalows making a total of 1,251 persons rehoused.

Modernisation and Improvement of Council Property.

Baths were installed in 50 Aged Persons' Cottages at Dipton and West Kyo which had previously lacked this amenity.

Five houses at Thomas Street, Craghead, were provided with bathrooms and modern fireplaces, etc.

Five houses at Dipton and Catchgate were improved by converting one of the two kitchens into a parlour and the other into a kitchen-living room by the replacement of old fashioned ranges by modern fireplaces.

Unsatisfactory fireplaces were replaced by a more suitable type in 150 temporary prefabricated bungalows and 112 permanent prefabricated bungalows.

Insanitary Dwellings.—During the year the following properties were dealt with under the Housing Acts :

1. Individual Unfit Houses demolished (Section II)	...	...	...	3
2. Individual Unfit Houses demolished (Informal Action)	...	...	...	—
3. Individual Unfit Houses closed (Informal Action)	...	...	...	56
4. Parts of Buildings closed	...	...	...	6

Demolition Orders.—The following particulars shew the position regarding houses under demolition orders :

1. No. of houses still occupied	...	...	...	...	...	7
2. No. of houses standing empty	...	...	...	...	...	11
3. No. of Demolition Orders served during 1952	...	...	...	...	...	3
4. No. of Unfit Houses which cannot be made fit at reasonable expense	...	...	...	...	...	1,056
5. No. of sub-standard houses which could be reconditioned at reasonable expense	...	...	...	...	...	191

(b) Public Health and Housing Acts :

The following is a summary of notices served under the Public Health and Housing Acts :

	No. of Nuisances or defects dealt with by Informal Notices	No. of Nuisances or Defects dealt with by Formal Notices by Order of the Council	No. of Nuisances or Defects abated or remedied after service of Notices
Dwelling Houses :—			
Foul Conditions	—	—	—
Structural Defects	158	54	176
Ashpits and Privies	16	15	30
Water-closets	34	11	38
Yard Paving	3	—	8
House Drainage :—			
Defective Traps	1	—	—
Other faults	41	12	46
Water Supply	9	2	13
Smoke Nuisance	—	—	—
Ashbins	19	—	21
Rats and Mice	78	—	72
Other Nuisances	2	—	2
Totals	361	94	406

(c) Analysis of Inspections, 1952 :

Housing Defects :—Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	413
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	982
Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	574
Water-closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Ashpits and Ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
Yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Foul Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Housing Acts :—Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	747
Demolition	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Overcrowding... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Meat Pool	...	...	...	...	...	...	163
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Ice Cream Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Cottagers' Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Rodent Infestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	581
Deposits of Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	289
Animals Improperly Kept	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke Nuisances... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	404
Privy Conversion... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,225
Refuse Collection... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	284
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	262
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	235
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	137
Appointments	...	...	...	...	...	...	648
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	570
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,570

5. **Factories.**

During the year 289 inspections were carried out in the various factories in the Area. (See Appendix C).

The following is a list of factories in the Area at the 31st December, 1952 :

Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Mineral Water Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Milk Pasteurisers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clothing Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dressmakers and Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Printers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ink Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Builders and Contractors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Joiners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Painters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Boot Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Radio Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Brick and Tile Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Watch Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Glove Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drycleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Marine Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor Repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Gas Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cosmetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Witherite Plant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Building Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Electric Stations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Total										133

There were no out-workers in the Area at 31st December, 1952.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) **General.**

Particular attention has again been directed to the maintenance of hygienic conditions in all those establishments where food is manufactured, prepared, sold and distributed, and on the whole all have been well conducted.

Routine regular visits, with special additional visits where necessary, were made in an attempt not only to ensure that premises were clean but that the staff realised the importance of hygienic methods. At the Stanley and District Annual Exhibition and Show an opportunity was taken to demonstrate the organisms capable of causing food poisoning, the methods of spread of infection, the methods adopted to counteract this, together with exhibits of refrigerated meat and fish display cabinets, ideal shop-counters and models of a milk pasteurisation plant and water filtration and chlorinating works.

Many careless food-handlers and van salesmen, however, still fail to appreciate their responsibility to the public and to realise that by their neglect or dirty habits they may be the cause of widespread epidemics. Customers, while demanding a high standard, must also play their part by patronising the clean retailer and manufacturer and also assist him to maintain his standards.

(b) **Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

The following were on the register at the 31st December, 1952 :

Dairies (not dairy farms)	...	...	...	Nil
Distributors	...	...	...	93

(c) **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

There were no licences issued during the year under review.

(d) **Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949.**

The following licences were issued during the year under review :

Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	...	...	31
Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Sterilised "	...	...	53
Dealers' Licence to use the special designation " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) "	...	...	26
Dealers' Supplementary Licence to use the special designation " Pasteurised "	...	...	2

(e) **Food and Drugs Act, 1938.**

Routine inspections were carried out of all premises used for the manufacture, sale and storage of food.

The following premises were registered under the Act :

Ice Cream Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream Sale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
Ice Cream Storage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages, Potted or Pressed Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Preparation of Preserved Food—Fried Fish and Chips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35

(f) **Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.**

All premises used for the manufacture and storage of Ice Cream were regularly inspected during the year and a good standard of hygiene was maintained.

Samples of Ice Cream were taken periodically from all producers and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory.

Results were as follows :

				No. of Samples
Grade I	...	...	...	139
Grade II	...	...	...	18
Grade III	...	...	...	16
Grade IV	...	...	...	6
Total				179

(g) **Meat and Other Foods.**

The slaughter of food animals is carried out at a Central Depot outside the District and the meat brought into three Distribution Depots and inspected prior to allocation to the butchers.

In addition, 38 pigs were slaughtered in the District by pig keepers, under special permits from the Ministry of Food.

During the year the following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and destroyed :

3,328 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Mutton (Decomposition)	
71 lbs. „ (Bone Taint)	
12 lbs. Lamb (Decomposition).	
43 lbs. Pork (Fracture and Bruising).	
116 lbs. Pigs' Heads (Decomposition).	
20 lbs. Pork (Decomposition)	
1 set Pig's Lungs (Tuberculosis).	
2 Pigs' Heads (Tuberculosis).	
71 lbs. Beef (Bruising).	
616 lbs. Beef (Bone Taint).	
239 lbs. Beef (Decomposition).	
183 lbs. Beef (Imperfect Bleeding due to injury).	
72 lbs. Sheep's Pluck (Decomposition).	
109 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Sheep's Heads (Decomposition).	
260 lbs. Imported Beef (Bone Taint).	
10 lbs. Imported Lambs' Liver (Decomposition).	
115 lbs. 3 ozs. (25 tins) Jellied Veal.	
686 lbs. 1 oz. (69 tins) Cooked Meats.	
678 tins Luncheon Meat and Minced Loaf.	
112 lbs. Pork Trimmings.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Pork Links.
107 tins Meats.	10 tins Chicken.
160 lbs. Sausage.	116 lbs. 14 ozs. Bacon.
16 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Butter.	2 cwts. Sugar.
15 stone Flour.	195 tins Vegetables.
31 lbs. Ground Rice.	76 tins Milk.
15 Cartons Cheese.	1,376 tins Fruit.
59 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Dried Fruit.	59 tins Fish.
11 tins Soup.	11 tins Syrup.
1 tin Preserves.	36 tins Baked Beans.
1 tin Macaroni.	1 tin Cottage Pie.
35 tins Lemon Barley.	18 jars Paste.
37 Puddings.	1 jar Honey.
4 tins Irish Stew.	1 Chocolate Roll.
36 Peas Puddings.	

(h) Slaughter-houses.

During the year under review 13 licences for the keeping of premises as a Slaughter-house were issued.

(i) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There were 48 licensed slaughtermen on the register at the end of the year.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

I There was a decrease in the number of confirmed cases during the year as compared with 1951 (1,320 as against 1,362 in 1951), due mainly to there being fewer cases of Dysentery.

For analysis of notified and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases see Appendix B.

Notifiable Diseases reported during the year 1952.

The following table gives particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the Area during the year :

Disease.	Total Number of Cases Notified.	Total Number of Cases Confirmed.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	141	140	9	—
Whooping Cough	179	179	2	—
Diphtheria	10	—	10	—
Measles	849	849	8	1*
Pneumonia	101	94	45	25
Meningococcal Infection	7	6	7	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	10	7	8	1*
Dysentery	22	20	5	1*
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—	—
Para-typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	11	11	1	—
Food Poisoning	13	13	—	—
Totals	1,344	1,320	95	28

* Not notified.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases increased from 104 in 1951 to 140 this year. It must be realised, of course, that the same organism (Hæmolytic Streptococci), in addition to causing Scarlet Fever, can produce Tonsillitis, Catarrhal Infections, Septic Sores, etc., and can also be carried in the throats of resistant carriers. None of these latter infections are notifiable and therefore constitute an unassessed reservoir of infection. The futility of notifying one disease and not all others must of course be obvious.

General Practitioners were encouraged to request admission to hospital for only those cases where gross adverse environmental circumstances or additional complications made this step necessary. The disease was mild in type with no deaths, the average period of hospitalisation being four weeks.

Whooping Cough.—One hundred and seventy nine cases occurred during the year, two being admitted to hospital. While no deaths were recorded it still remains a dangerous disease, infants being particularly vulnerable to the complaint, deaths when they do occur being concentrated in the first twelve months of life, occurring more commonly during the winter months. The investigations under the auspices of the Medical Research Council to test the value of whooping cough vaccines in progress since 1942, still continues. The County Council has received Ministry approval for the setting up of Whooping Cough Prophylactic Schemes under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and will no doubt set these in motion once a vaccine can be recommended without reservation.

In the meantime, of course, treatment of the disease by antibiotics has improved and if given early in the illness reduces the number and severity of the paroxysms.

Diphtheria.—During the year ten cases were notified, the least ever recorded in this area. All were admitted to hospital and on further investigation none was regarded as a case of Diphtheria. There were no deaths from Diphtheria.

In the Stanley Urban District, 48.6% of children under five years and 90.3% between five years and fifteen years have at some time been immunised but if we consider those not immunised within the last four years as having no existing immunity the percentage of children immune under the age of five years is 48.6% and the percentage of children between the ages of five and fifteen years is 79.2%. (The corresponding figure for last year was 15.7%).

Diphtheria notification and mortality rates (per 1,000 population) since 1934 are as follows :

Year.	Notification Rate.	Mortality Rate.
1934	9.0	.692
1935	6.7	.309
1936	6.7	.255
1937	6.5	.255
1938	7.9	.455
1939	3.9	.119
1940	3.6	.209
1941	2.2	.065
1942	2.7	.066
1943	2.5	.089
1944	3.1	.109
1945	4.2	.129
1946	2.1	.020
1947	1.2	.020
1948	0.8	.020
1949	0.6	.000
1950	0.47	.000
1951	0.35	.020
1952	0.21	.000

(See graphs on pages 26 and 27).

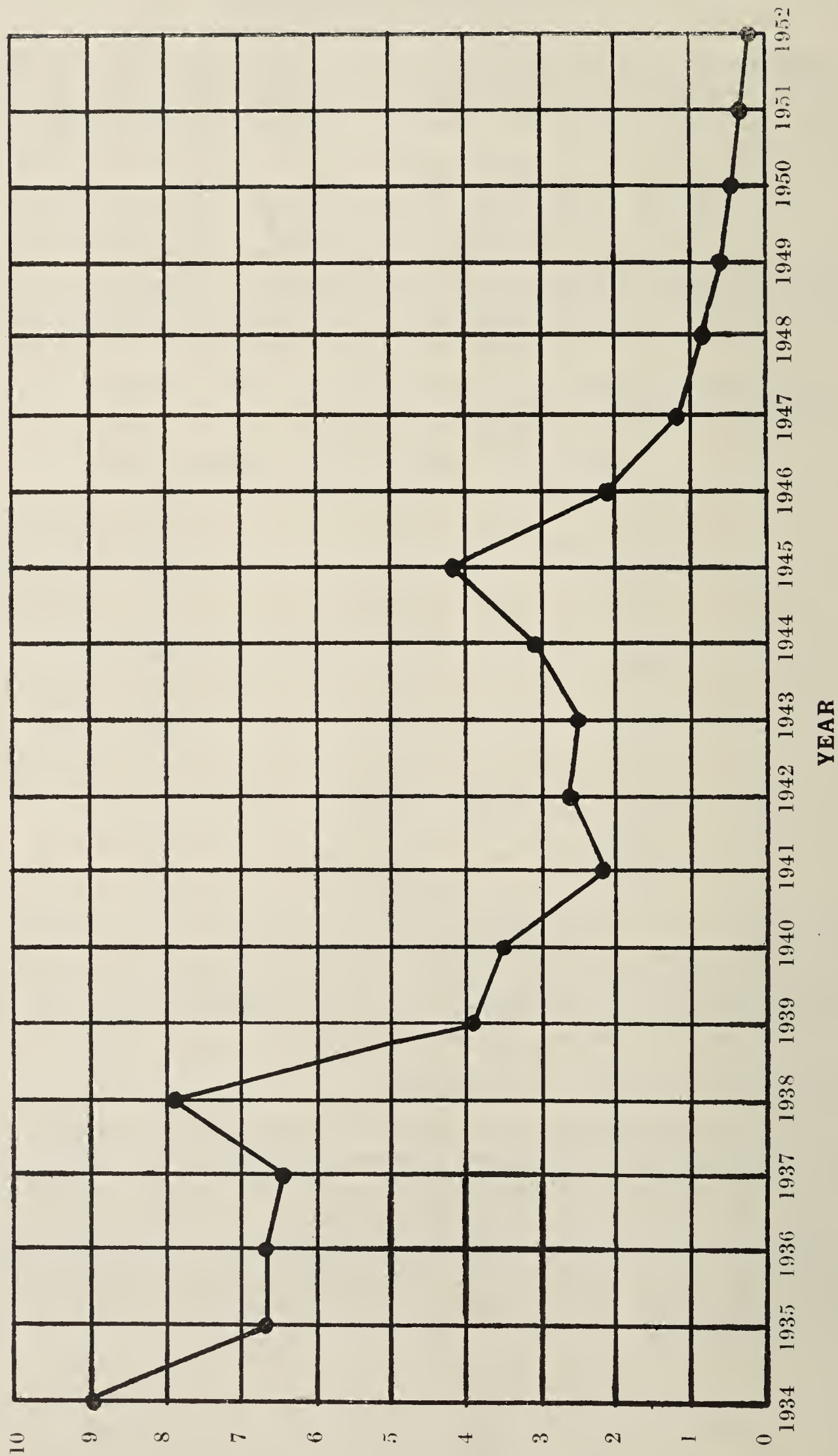
Pamphlets recommending immunisation are sent out by the County Health Department to all parents when their children are eight months old and again on their first and fourth birthdays.

Diphtheria Immunisation—School Scheme.

While the annual incidence of cases and numbers of deaths from Diphtheria has diminished dramatically since the commencement of immunisation, the death of an unimmunised child of six years in 1951 was a reminder of the necessity of keeping up the level of immunity in the child population. The percentage of school children immunised had dropped to a low level and it was therefore decided to embark on a school scheme whereby those of the 7,000 children in the area who were due for immunisation would be offered facilities during school hours.

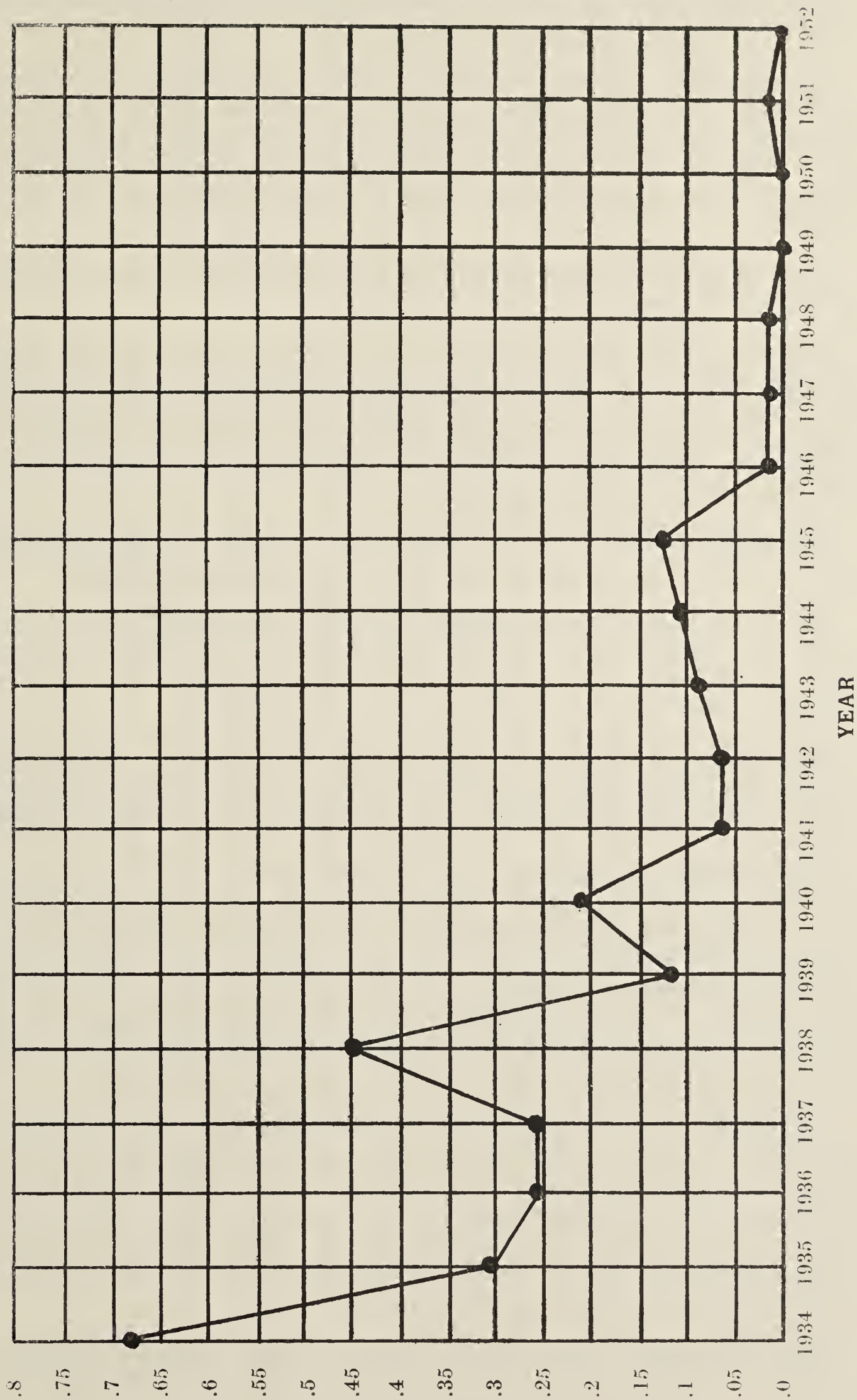
NUMBER OF CASES PER 1,000 POPULATION PER YEAR

DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATION RATES 1934 - 1952



NUMBER OF DEATHS PER 1,000 POPULATION PER YEAR

DIPHTHERIA MORTALITY RATES 1934 - 1952



Five and a half thousand parents consented and the project commenced on 28th April. With the help of all the General Practitioners it was carried out in three phases and completed on 9th July.

During this period 146 visits were made to the 39 schools, 1,179 unimmunised children received a complete course of injections, and 3,642 previously immunised children received booster injections, a total of 6,307 injections being given. Because of various unrelated illnesses 47 children did not receive a complete course but these were referred to their own doctors for the final injections.

The scheme was a great success and both the children, parents and school teachers were most interested and co-operative.

Measles.—There was an increase of 47 in the number of cases suffering from this disease and these occurred mainly during the months of October (163), November (260), and December (232). This epidemic first commencing in Stanley slowly spread to Annfield Plain, then Dipton and ultimately to Burnopfield. There was one death from this disease—a fifteen months old child who died in December at home.

Pneumonia.—There were 101 cases notified during the year as compared with 103 in the previous year, 45 of which were admitted to hospital.

With the co-operation of certain General Practitioners, the local Public Health Laboratory Service and the Virus Reference Laboratory at Colindale, all preparations have been made for detailed bacteriological investigations of cases and contacts should an outbreak occur in the future.

Meningococcal Infection.—There were seven notifications of this disease. All were admitted to hospital and in six of these cases was the diagnosis confirmed. One of the unconfirmed cases was diagnosed as Polioencephalitis.

Poliomyelitis.—During the year ten cases of this disease were notified, seven of whom were confirmed. One case notified as Meningococcal Infection was later diagnosed as Polioencephalitis. In addition, four confirmed cases of Poliomyelitis from this area were notified to neighbouring Local Authorities from hospitals outside the district. In all, there were eleven confirmed cases, seven paralytic and four non-paralytic. There was one death (aged 7 months). Eight of these cases were five years or under, one eight years and two adults. None of these cases had had recent injections or throat operations.

Dysentery.—Twenty-two cases of this disease were notified during the year, twenty of which were confirmed. These figures compare very favourably with the 111 notifications and 112 confirmed cases in 1951. Nevertheless, I still feel that this disease is smouldering in the district, ready, when conditions are favourable, to break out into an epidemic. Five cases were hospitalised in 1952 as compared with 3 in 1951. There was one death from this disease—an old man of 81 years.

Food Poisoning.—There were 13 cases of Food Poisoning notified and confirmed as compared with 16 notified (15 confirmed) in the previous year.

No cases were admitted to hospital as compared with two in the previous year.

Monthly totals were as follows :

January	...	...	...	...	3
February	...	...	...	...	—
March	...	...	...	...	1
April	...	...	...	...	—
May	...	...	...	...	—
June	...	...	...	...	—
July	...	...	...	...	—
August	...	...	...	...	—
September	...	...	...	...	6
October	...	...	...	...	1
November	...	...	...	...	2
December	...	...	...	...	—
Total ...					13 cases.

These cases involved 9 families in which 3 could be said to be family outbreaks (No. 33—2 cases, No. 39—2 cases and No. 41—3 cases), the rest being sporadic cases where no relationship with regard to source of infection could be traced. No incriminating food or reservoir of infection in any case could be discovered. One of the great difficulties is the delay between the onset of symptoms and the notification of these sporadic cases, making it impossible to obtain accurate information or incriminating food. The organisms responsible were as follows :

Salmonella Typhi-murium	...	...	...	4
Coagulase positive Staphylococcus Aureus	...	...	...	1
Unknown	...	...	...	8
Total				13

In addition, two patients from this district were notified outside the area as suffering from (1) Salmonella Typhi—murium and (2) Salmonella Bareilly.

Smallpox.—The significant figure of vaccination is the proportion of children under one year who have been vaccinated. The figure for the Stanley area in 1949 was 6.7% as compared with 28% for the Country as a whole. The figures for this area for the past four years are 6.7%, 5.1%, 7.1% and 21.2% (255 children). The figure for the County for 1952 was 19.46%.

The possibility of introducing this disease from abroad has increased considerably with the popularity of air travel. It is, therefore, important that continuous efforts to encourage vaccination should be made by all who are concerned with the care of young children.

A pamphlet regarding vaccination is sent to parents by the County Medical Officer of Health when their children attain the age of three months.

II

TUBERCULOSIS.

1. Statistics.

				Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
(a) No. of new cases notified during the year :—						
	Males	...	...	28	4	32
	Females	...	...	21	10	31
	Totals	...	...	49	14	63
(b) No. of deaths registered :—						
	Males	...	...	5	—	5
	Females	...	...	5	1	6
	Totals	...	...	10	1	11
(c) No. of cases on the Tuberculosis Register :—						
	Males	...	...	200	58	258
	Females	...	...	201	64	265
	Totals	...	...	401	122	523

Age distribution of new cases and deaths are as follows :

Age Period	C A S E S				D E A T H S			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-4 ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-15 ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-20 ...	3	5	—	3	—	2	—	—
21-25 ...	4	5	1	2	1	—	—	—
26-30 ...	2	2	1	2	—	2	—	1*
31-35 ...	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
36-40 ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
41-45 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
46-50 ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
51-55 ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
56-60 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
61-65 ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
66-70 ...	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
71-75 ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
76-80 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	28	21	4	10	5	5	—	1
Totals ...	49		14		10		1	
	63				11			

* T.B. Meningitis.

Number and rate per 1,000 population of notification and deaths over the last nineteen years are as follows :

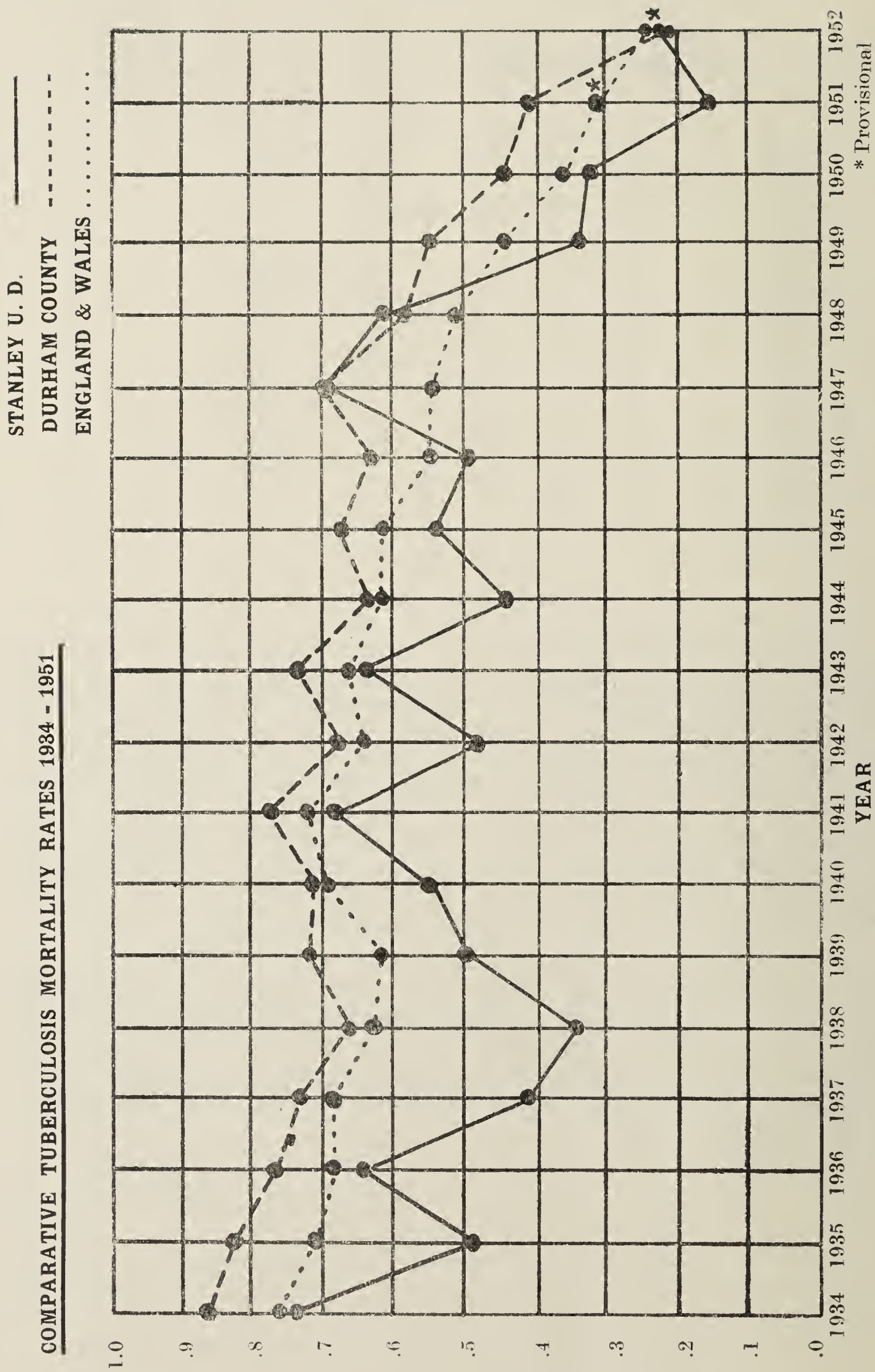
Year	No. of Notifications	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 pop.	No. of Sanatoria Admissions
1934	64	1.3	34	.75	—
1935	67	1.4	22	.49	—
1936	57	1.2	24	.66	—
1937	52	1.0	21	.41	—
1938	85	1.6	18	.35	—
1939	74	1.5	25	.50	—
1940	70	1.5	27	.56	—
1941	66	1.4	32	.69	—
1942	52	1.1	22	.48	—
1943	73	1.6	30	.66	—
1944	53	1.1	21	.46	—
1945	45	0.9	26	.56	—
1946	67	1.2	24	.50	28
1947	83	1.7	34	.70	29
1948	91	1.8	30	.61	31
1949	73	1.5	17	.35	37
1950	64	1.3	16	.33	29
1951	96	2.0	8	.16	68
1952	63	1.3	11	.23	64

(See graph on page 32).

The Tuberculosis Regulations, 1952, which came into operation on the 1st May of that year, revoking the Tuberculosis Regulations, 1930, no longer require a statutory register of Tuberculosis patients to be maintained by local sanitary authorities or District Medical Officers of Health and there is now no statutory requirement for hospital authorities to inform Medical Officers of Health when cases are admitted or discharged from sanatoria. Nevertheless, in a circular from the Ministry of Health they urge that this register of notifications should continue to be kept and also that hospital authorities ensure that the information of a Tuberculosis patient entering or leaving a hospital or sanatorium continue to be sent by the institution concerned to the Medical Officer of Health of the district to which the patient belongs.

In an attempt to streamline a service, to make it fit into the general pattern, I think we should be absolutely certain that important principles are not sacrificed. Tuberculosis is an infectious disease, and therefore the Medical Officer of Health must be kept briefed of the movements of the potentially infectious ; the disease may produce severe family and social disruptions and aftercare may be a problem and it is here, surely, that local administration and co-ordination is vital.

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS PER 1,000 POPULATION
PER YEAR



II. Notification of Tuberculosis.

There was a reduction in the number of cases notified during the year and there is no doubt that the complete eradication of Tuberculosis is a much nearer possibility. The general public are much more conscious of the importance of early diagnosis and much more ready to take advantage of X-ray facilities and to seek medical advice.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Stanley from the 16th to 27th June with the following results :

No. X-rayed—Miniature films	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,162
Large films (no miniature)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
No. recalled for large film	...	...	...	...	...	...	180
Suspected Pulmonary Tuberculosis—newly discovered—active	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

III. Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Eleven deaths were notified during the year (2 at the time of death) but, while this is three more than last year, the graph shews the general trend of the death rate to be one of rapid decline.

New drugs are probably largely responsible but many other features such as early diagnosis, higher standard of living and feeding, increased hospital accommodation and better housing conditions have all contributed. As death rates fall the need for out-patient clinics increase. More patients require out-patient treatment, careful supervision, rehabilitation and after-care, while chemotherapy appears to be increasing the demand for thoracic surgery.

IV. Tuberculosis Services for the Area.

(i) The Chest Clinic, situated at Stanley, although providing a service which covers all diseases of the chest (excluding heart disease), is primarily concerned with, at the present time, Pulmonary Tuberculosis patients and contacts. Patients in the main are now sent to hospitals in the district instead of having to travel considerable distances.

A scheme for B.C.G. vaccination of contacts was worked out and commenced operation in December, sessions being held periodically at Stanley School Clinic. Here eligible contacts have preliminary skin tests and B.C.G. Vaccination under the supervision of the Chest Physician. It is hoped that the Ministry will agree to the expansion of the scheme to cover eligible school leavers.

(ii) During the year 64 cases of Tuberculosis from this area were admitted to Sanatoria.

A ward of 19 beds for Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases was made available in Dryburn Hospital in July, 1952, while the Tuberculosis Unit established in Maiden Law Hospital was gradually enlarged until in October there were 60 Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases under treatment.

Waiting periods for admission have been considerably reduced and suitable cases from our own area are admitted to hospitals on the doorstep of their home—an important factor when one considers that in-patient treatment may be for long periods.

(iii) There were 523 patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, 2 were retrained and 1 received special rehabilitation during the year.

(iv) The voluntary after-care committee for North-West Durham has ceased to exist and after-care responsibilities now rest entirely with the Durham County Council. All the day-to-day administration is carried out centrally and nursing requisites, etc., are stored at Durham.

(v) The ad hoc Tuberculosis Liaison Committee, attended by representatives of North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee, Chest Physicians, Radiologist and your own Medical Officer, continued to meet regularly during the year. These meetings proved to be of extreme value.

(vi) Since 1946 10% of all new Council houses and casual lettings (amounting to 16 houses this year) are allocated to Tuberculosis cases. A total of 108 families have been rehoused under this scheme since its introduction.

RELEVANT NEW LEGISLATION, 1952

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 :

Came into operation 1st May, 1952.

These Regulations revoke the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930 and make similar provision for the notification of Tuberculosis modified to accord with the structure and administration of the services now being provided under the National Health Service Acts.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Amendment Regulations, 1952 :

Came into Operation 5th May, 1952.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1951 prescribed certain requirements to be observed in the manufacture of ice-cream intended for sale for human consumption and in particular require the mixture to be subjected to one of two methods of heat treatment. These regulations provide for a third method of heat treatment as an alternative to the two existing methods.

The Food Standards (Ice-Cream) (Amendment) Order, 1952 :

Came into Operation 7th July, 1952.

This Order, which amends the Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Order, 1951, reduces from 7th July, 1952, the minimum quantity of fat and milk solids other than fat required to be contained in ice-cream.

The Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1952 :

Came into Operation 1st October, 1952.

These Regulations provide in conformity with the International Sanitary Regulations (Cmd. 8394) (Misc. No. 6) (1951), adopted by the Fourth World Health Assembly on 25th May, 1951, for sanitary control of aircraft arriving or leaving aerodromes or other places in England and Wales. The Regulations supersede the Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1950.

The Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952 :

Came into Operation 1st October, 1952.

These Regulations provide in conformity with the International Sanitary Regulations (Cmd. 8394) (Misc. No. 6) (1951), adopted by the Fourth World Health Assembly on 25th May, 1951, for sanitary control of ships arriving at or leaving ports in England or Wales. The Regulations supersede the Port Health Regulations, 1933 to 1945.

The Public Health (Meat) (Amendment) Regulations, 1952 :

Came into Operation 31st August, 1952.

These Regulations amend the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as amended, so as to extend to horses, asses and mules the application of Part II thereof which relates to slaughter-houses and the slaughter of cattle, swine, sheep and goats for sale for human consumption and requires, inter alia, prior notice of slaughter to be given to the local authority.

The Transfer of Functions (Slaughter-houses and Knackers' Yards) Order, 1952 :

Coming into Operation 1st January, 1953.

This Order in Council transfers to the Minister of Food certain statutory powers and duties relating to slaughter-houses and knackers' yards or otherwise relating to the slaughter of animals.

APPENDIX A.

No. of Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.																			
Year	Popu- lation	Deaths	Rate	Live Births	Birth Rate	Infan- tile Deaths	Infant Death Rate	Neo- natal Deaths	Neo- natal Death Rate	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Diph- theria	Polio- myelit- is	Bowel Complaints			Tuber- culosis	
															Dysentery	Enteric	Food P.	Pul.	Non Pul.
1937...	50,830	597	12.99	756	16.45	49	64.81	—	—	—	151	—	332	—	—	3	—	28	24
1938...	50,490	591	11.70	801	15.86	48	60.00	—	—	—	164	—	395	—	—	2	—	40	45
1939...	50,020	594	11.94	718	14.35	53	74.00	—	—	8	77	3	196	—	2	2	—	38	36
1940...	47,700	600	12.58	847	17.76	51	60.00	—	—	1,093	103	84	173	—	8	1	—	44	26
1941..	46,000	566	12.30	811	17.63	70	87.00	—	—	262	120	73	105	—	4	—	—	43	23
1942...	45,330	546	12.04	812	17.91	43	54.00	—	—	547	164	8	125	—	10	1	—	31	21
1943...	44,950	571	12.70	844	18.77	54	65.00	—	—	637	196	229	113	—	—	1	—	44	29
1944...	45,660	543	11.89	950	20.80	54	57.00	—	—	712	88	15	145	—	10	2	—	39	14
1945...	46,440	574	12.36	862	18.50	47	54.30	—	—	241	80	241	194	—	11	2	—	33	12
1946...	48,110	573	11.90	975	20.27	48	49.00	22	22.56	619	50	619	101	1	—	18	9	56	11
1947...	48,510	631	13.00	1108	22.84	54	48.73	23	20.75	268	71	268	61	28	6	3	1	61	22
1948...	48,920	609	12.45	926	18.93	44	47.51	19	20.51	788	181	788	40	6	4	2	1	77	14
1949...	48,890	555	11.35	880	18.00	30	34.1	15	17.04	656	240	115	31	2	33	3	9	57	16
1950...	48,480	561	11.57	769	15.86	26	33.8	12	15.60	379	107	391	23	3	391	—	20	53	11
1951...	48,110	559	11.62	788	16.37	31	39.34	14	17.76	802	104	214	17	—	111	2	16	82	14
1952...	48,080	566	11.77	819	17.03	33	40.29	24	72.72	849	141	179	10	10	22	—	13	49	14

APPENDIX B.

ANALYSIS OF THE NOTIFIED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES UNDER AGE GROUPS FOR 1952

Name of Disease	Under 1 year		1		2		3		4		5		6-10		11-15		16-20		21-35		36-45		46-65		66 and Over		Age Un-known		TOTALS		
	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	N	C	
	91	90	114	114	139	139	156	155	200	198	269	269	250	245	36	32	14	13	22	20	13	13	20	17	20	15	20	16	12	101	94
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1			8	8	11	11	20	20	18	18	69	68	11	11	3	3											141	140	
Diphtheria ...							1						3		4		1		1										10		
Puerperal Pyrexia ...																			1	1									1	1	
Pneumonia ...	13	13	5	5	5	5	6	6	4	4	5	5	9	9	5	5	1	1	9	9	8	8	15	12	16	12			101	94	
Measles ...	43	43	74	74	96	96	108	108	147	147	216	216	146	146	10	10	7	7	2	2									849	849	
Whooping Cough ...	29	29	28	28	26	26	26	26	27	27	27	27	15	15	1	1													179	179	
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	2	2			1	1					2	1							1	1							7	6	
Erysipelas ...																															
Acute Poliomyelitis ...			2	2	1	1	1	1	2		1	1	1	1					1		1	1							11	11	
Food Poisoning ...	1	1	1	1	1	1							2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4									13	13	
Dysentery ...	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			2	2	3	3	3	3			2	2			2	2	1				22	20	
Totals ...	91	90	114	114	139	139	156	155	200	198	269	269	250	245	36	32	14	13	22	20	13	13	20	17	20	15	20	16	12	1,344	1,320

N—Notified Cases.

C—Corrected Cases.

APPENDIX C.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provision as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	61	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	104	231	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)...	9	37	—	—
TOTALS	133	289	1	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector By H.M. Inspector		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2) ...					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	4	1	—	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...					
(c) Not separate for sexes ...					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out work)	1	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	5	1	—	5	—

APPENDIX D.
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

	Type of Property.				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District ...	96	13,989	54	1,626	15,765
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise ...	(a) 12 (b) 75	30 101	1 23	30 309	73 508
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats ...	Major 2 Minor 5	— 34	— 3	3 11	5 53
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice ...	7	18	—	14	39
V. Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority	14	25	1	6	47
VI. Number of informal notices served under Section 4 :— (1) Treatment ... (2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ...	— 2	11 47	— —	4 14	15 63
Totals ...	2	58	—	18	78
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
VIII. Legal Proceedings ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

